



# Westminster Scrutiny Commission

<b>Date:</b>	<b>9 November 2011</b>
<b>Classification:</b>	<b>For General Release</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Chairmanship of the Commission</b>
<b>Report of:</b>	<b>Head of Legal and Democratic Services</b>
<b>Wards Involved:</b>	<b>Not Applicable</b>
<b>Policy Context:</b>	<b>Management of the Council</b>
<b>Financial Summary:</b>	<b>None</b>
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## **1. Executive Summary**

- 1.1 At it's last meeting the Commission asked that they be given the opportunity to elect a Chairman at its next meeting.
- 1.2 There is no requirement to re-elect Committee Chairmen on an annual basis, although this is a practice adopted in some authorities. The City Council only elects Chairmen to Committees every 4 years or when otherwise necessary, e.g. when an alternative nomination is made by the Leader or there is a vacancy.

## **2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 That the report be noted and Councillor Richardson be confirmed as Chairman.  
  
OR
- 2.2 That, if an alternative nomination is received the Commission determine whether to elect a new Chairman.
- 2.3 That the WSC determine if it wishes to elect its Chairman on an annual basis in future.

### **3. Background**

- 3.1 The WSC elected Councillor Sarah Richardson as its Chairman at its meeting on 6 July 2010. In the absence of any reason to the contrary Councillor Richardson remains the Chairman until she resigns, is replaced or becomes ineligible which in this case would be that she is no longer a member of the WSC or a Councillor.
- 3.2 The Chairmanship of Committees is a matter for the Commission to determine. The Leader of the Council has the power to nominate only but in any event chooses not to do so in the case of the WSC.
- 3.3 If in future the WSC just wishes to appoint its Chairman on an annual basis it is free to do so and a recommendation is included to allow the WSC to determine if it wishes to do this.
4. **Legal Implications** – None.
5. **Financial Implications** – None.
6. **Other Implications** – None.

**If you have any queries about this Report or wish to inspect any of the Background Papers please contact Mick Steward: 7641 3134**

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### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- WSC Minutes – 6 July 2010